

SAF/LLZ (Legislative Research Team)

RYUN, Jim (Republican)  
Representative, 2nd District, Kansas  
Elected 1996 to the 105th Congress  
Reelected to succeeding Congress



## BACKGROUND

Born: Wichita, Kansas - 29 April 1947  
Home: Jefferson County, Kansas  
Marital status: Married (Anne) - 4 children  
Religion: Presbyterian  
Education: University of Kansas, BA, 1970  
Military: None

Profession: Motivational speaker; product consultant

Political: No previous elected office. In 1996 defeated John Frieden (D) with 52% of the vote for the seat of Rep Sam Brownback (R), who ran successfully for the Senate. Reelected in 2000 with 67% of the vote and in 2002 with 60%.

Rep Ryun, a three-time Olympic runner who once held the world record for the mile, is a conservative Christian who believes in patriarchy and the dominance of the husband in the household. Member of the Conservative Action Team (CAT), which calls for a balanced budget, tax relief, and prohibiting unions from using dues for political purposes.

In the 105th Congress, pushed for a certain date for withdrawal of US troops from Bosnia (H.Rpt. 105-32). Voiced opposition to the transfer of US satellite technology to China, warning that such technology would help China develop its strategic missiles. (Legi-Slate, 5May98) Said President Clinton's FY99 defense budget was underfunded so to support an "ever-increasing" number of social programs. (Wash Times, 18Aug98)

In the 106<sup>th</sup> Congress, cited Kansas ANG's 190<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing as an example of the military being asked to do more with less. Explained worldwide deployment commitment is met with unit's KC-135 tankers, the newest built in 1963 and the oldest, 1956. (CR, 18Mar99) Commenting on the FY00 Defense Authorization Bill, said that to retain skilled military personnel, OPSTEMPO must be reduced and readiness accounts must be increased. Remarked that the Auth Bill adds much needed funds to military readiness, personnel, procurement, construction and research accounts. (CR, 26May99)

In the 107<sup>th</sup> Congress, expressed regret that the Multi-Sensor Command and Control Aircraft (MC2A) program would not be funded in the DOD Approps bill. Encouraged the Air Force to find a way to revive this program. Supported making President Bush's tax relief plan permanent. Concerning Homeland Security, said "Congress needs to revise its own committee structure to ensure that the federal government's homeland security activities are properly prioritized, coordinated and unded."

Additional: President of Jim Ryun Sports, Inc. Named Sportsman of the Year, 1966, by Sports Illustrated. First high school athlete to break the 4 minute mile mark; still holds the US male high school record. Was in 1964/68/72 Olympic Games, winning a silver medal in 1968. Wrote autobiography, In Quest of Gold. Daughter, Catherine, is an emergency medical technician. Ft Leavenworth and Ft Riley are in his district; McConnell AFB is just outside the district.

AF Bases: Forbes Field ANG

## COMMITTEES

ARMED SERVICES-- Subcs on Tactical Air & Land Forces; Readiness; Total Force BUDGET

FINANCIAL SERVICES